



CNP PRITTS NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 5

FEBRUARY 2012

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Feb. 2nd- Sarris Candy paper come home
- Feb. 6th- Market Day 6-7PM
- Feb 6th- PTG Meeting babysitter provided

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UPDATE ON CLOSING OF CN PRITTS

There were recent updates at the Reconfiguration/Feasibility meeting that was held on January 11th. At this time Clifford N. Pritts will remain open. For now, we have been excluded from the public notice that will be listed in the newspaper. The public will have the opportunity to speak on: February 14th, 6:00 PM at Connellsville Junior High East. The two schools that were not excluded from the public notice are Zachariah Connell Elementary and Junior

High West. According to the Connellsville's Daily Courier, Mr. Wandel recommended moving the ninth grade to the High School, combining the seventh and eighth grade at Connellsville Junior High East and leaving Connellsville Junior High West vacant for one year. It is of the utmost importance that we, the parents of CNP students, attend these meetings and give our input as to how we feel about these options as they are given to us. No matter what

grade your child is in now, these options will eventually effect you in the future. Please plan to attend this meeting.



PTG SPONSORED PROGRAMS



Did you hear about Mr. Ned and his fabulous YO-YO tricks? He was at the school in January for a program. Yo-Yos are on sale at the school if your child wants to learn tricks like Mr. Ned does!!

Upcoming in February, the children will hear the sounds from Caribbean Traditions. This is a Gateway to the Arts production.

Classroom News.....

Mrs. Cramer and Mrs. Shepler's



Kindergarten classes made penguins to help them slip and slide into the New Year. Students are also busy learning more

letters, more numbers, and more vocabulary every week. Both classes enjoyed all of the Christmas and winter stories by Jan Brett just before Christmas. Their first book fair

was a lot of fun and they would like to thank PTG for the \$4.00 coupon that helped to buy a book to enjoy. Thank you also to Miss Dix for organizing our book fair.

Mrs. Stepanic's First graders started the New Year off by writing New Year's resolutions. They did a fabulous job using good sentences! They continue to practice sentence skills in Writingshop, which is in full swing now. First graders also learned all about those silly belly sliding penguins. Students read many books/poems, discovered where they live, and were introduced to the many different kinds of penguins. They really like little blue! Everyone looks forward to visiting them at the Pittsburgh Zoo in May. Our penguin discussion has led us into discussing winter animals in our area and what they do to get through the winter months. Winter has also been a big topic in first

grade. They have learned why it is cold and snowy this time of year. The students did some science experiments to learn more about solids and liquids, as well. They read all about Martin Luther King, Jr. and discussed what our dream" would be. First graders continue to work on addition and subtraction strategies in Math. They have been graphing their progress and everyone continues to improve on those facts. This month, the class looks forward to finding out Mr. Groundhog's prediction for spring. However, they have their own predictions in first grade. Stop



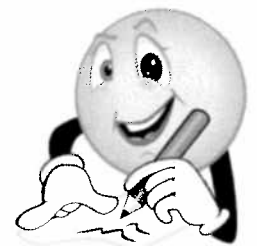
by and check them out.

Mrs. Basinger and her First grade class skated into the New Year by making some great resolutions! Then the class took off on an imaginary trip to the southern half of the Earth's hemisphere to visit those well dressed birds, the penguins. Wow, the students discovered many interesting facts about those silly looking creatures. Next, the boys and girls continued to practice their reading and writing skills through the many wonderful winter stories and poems. Finally, it was off to have more fun by making verbs while pretending to be outside in the snow. Maybe first grade will have a chance to really play in the snow during the month of February!

Mrs. Ulery and Mrs. Show's Second grade classes can't believe they are halfway through the school year. They have been so busy learning, time is really flying by!! However, there's a lot more to do. Students are working on 3 digit addition and subtraction in Math. These are obviously big numbers to work with. Mrs. Ulery and Mrs. Show can't stress enough.....LEARN THOSE

FACTS!!!! Practice using flashcards or play math games on the computer, whatever it takes!! Unit 4 in Reading is titled, "Our Changing World". This unit is challenging because three of the five stories are nonfiction" (packed with facts)!! However, the selections are quite interesting and the students will enjoy them. Second graders are talking a lot about Adjectives and some about Adverbs in Grammar. Both classes are still

practicing good sentence formation in their writing. Cursive writing is well underway and the students are doing well. Students continue to work on "Matter" in Science and they are always looking forward to our Power - Up presentations. Second graders are a very busy bunch!!!



Mrs. Parson's and Mrs. Hoover's third grade classes think January flew by. They are learning about



Jamestown in Social Studies. The students

seem to enjoy learning about the 1600's and the thirteen colonies. Also third grade is writing a compare/contrast essay on snowmen. Each student created two snowmen and wrote an essay which is displayed in the hallway. Feel free to stop by and see what

great work they did. Third graders are also beginning measurement, telling time, and geometric shape unit in Math. Both classes are looking forward to a new Unit in Reading. What a great way to start the New Year!

Miss Polosky and her Fourth grade class are learning tons of cool things about magnets from their new science kit. When they finish with magnetism, they will begin making their own circuits and studying electricity. They will be like modern day Ben Franklin's. In math students are studying

measurement right now, and then moving on to geometry. They will also be working from their PSSA Coach Books in preparation for the PSSA. Fourth graders just finished the Unit 3 Benchmark test in reading and moving into Unit 4. Please keep rereading the stories at home!!! The class will be

brushing up on the skills they are responsible for on the PSSA test. During February they will set the PA Newspapers aside so the students can focus on PSSA preparation!!



Ms. Firestone and Mrs. Coffman's Fifth grade classes have started the year off on the right track. In Math the students are learning how to divide decimals. In Social Studies the students are starting a new chapter

on East meets West. In Science the students are beginning a new unit on Plants. They enjoy decorating the



cover of their notebook when they begin a new unit. They are going to do their best on the benchmark tests which begin on Jan. 7th. Stop down and look at their snowmen table.

Mrs. Ladowitz and her Sixth graders are continuing their study of Earth History learning about metamorphic, igneous, & sedimentary rocks. They have done some interesting experiments with them. The students are also enjoying their study of the Civil War. They are completing Civil War projects through research & technology. They will even be creating their own Civil War board games. In math, the class has studied concepts in geometry. In February, they will begin working on algebraic concepts including positive and negative integers and exponents. *Keep practicing those facts at home!* The sixth graders would also like to welcome 2 new additions to their classroom: Mr. Lincoln & Mary Todd. They are Bahaman Anoles. Thanks to a grant awarded to Mrs. Ladowitz's classroom from The Pet Care Trust, the students are learning about these very interesting lizards. Please continue to check mrsladowitzsclass.wikispaces.com for weekly updates.

Help support the Sixth Grade Class...

buy a Smencil.

The World's Only
GOURMET SCENTED PENCILS
MADE FROM 100%
RECYCLED NEWSPAPERS

Smencils and Smens will be on sale every Friday.

Cost:

\$1.00 Smencil

\$1.25 Holiday Smencil

\$2.00 Smen

Saving trees... one pencil at a time

Library News

Miss Dix and her students have been busy in the Library. All classes had a preview of the Book Fair and attended the annual School Book Fair during their library class this month. Classes started off the year with doing their STAR Reading diagnostic (grades 2- 6) and STAR Early Literacy diagnostic (grades K-2).

In Kindergarten their story time theme for the month has been snow stories. 1st grade featured stories by Helen Lester. 1st graders had several humorous adventures with Tacky the Penguin. 2nd grade shared Caldecott Medal winner books during their story time. Book parts were also being emphasized as books were shared. 3rd grade has been learning about poetry. Students listened to funny poems and story poems. This month also brought magazine checkout for our 3rd graders. 4th, 5th & 6th grades emphasis this month has been on the nonfiction section and the Dewey Decimal System.

***Remember you can access the log in page on our Clifford N. Elementary School Wikispace at <http://cnpelementaryschool.wikispaces.com/>. Go to the library link.



Carnegie Free Library

Winter Children's Programs are being offered at the Carnegie Free Library in Connellsville. The following programs will be taking place: Time to Read Preschool Storytime (ages 2 – 5, Wed., Feb 8 – May 16 at 11:00 AM), Missing Storytime (Kdg. & Gr. 1, Sat. Feb. 4, Mar. 3, Apr. 7 and May 5 at 11:00 AM), Tour the World (Gr. 2 & 3,

Sat. Feb. 4, Mar. 3, Apr. 7 and May 5 at 1:00 PM) and It's a Mystery! (Gr. 4 – 6, Feb. 4, Mar. 3, Apr. 7 and May 5 at 3:00 PM). Sign-up by calling 724-628-1380 or stop at Carnegie Free Library to reserve your spot!

Music News

Congratulations to all CNP students and the CNP Chorus for a GREAT job singing at our Christmas Sing-Along. You all sounded great! Now the students are getting back to their regular schedule of classes and the Chorus is working on their spring musical-Dig It!

Kindergarten has just begun a new unit called "Ways to Travel". The students are singing old favorites like "The Wheels on the Bus", and learning new songs like Engine, Engine Number 9. The theme of travel allows us to explore different tempos or speeds in music.

1st grade is just finishing unit 2 and having a written assessment about high/low sounds and long and short sounds. In our next unit 1st grade students will work on tempo with songs like "Little Red Caboose" and work on rhythms with one and two sounds to a beat.

2nd grade has been working on songs that use notes *do*, *mi*, and *so*. They have learned a handclapping game to "Sonida", and have played the game to "Who Has the Penny?" Students are able to identify whether the written note is do, mi, or so.

3rd grade has begun a recorder method called *Recorder Karate*. They are working on reading and playing notes G, A, and B on their recorders. Most students have earned their "white belt" by playing the song Hot Cross Buns with no mistakes. Some students are working on their yellow belt with the song Gently Sleep.

4th grade has been working on jazz and has been doing some scat singing, movement improvisation, playing a blues bass line on BoomWhackers, and a matching game involving famous jazz musicians.

5th grade is working on a percussion unit where they study and play different percussion instruments. They also work on playing percussion instruments in different meters.

6th grade has begun a short unit on Emotions in Music where they discover the influence of tempo, dynamics, melody and rhythm on music. They will watch short video clips and choose a style of music that they feel is best suited to the clip.



Physical Education News.....

JUMP ROPE FOR HEART is a program from the American Heart Association that teaches us about being physically active and how to take care of our hearts. It also lets us be a hero to someone who needs our help. By asking friends and family members to sponsor you in JUMP ROPE FOR HEART you raise money for the American Heart Association to help end heart disease. When you raise money for the American Heart Association it goes to help invent new medicines, treatment and equipment that could help stop heart disease for someone—maybe even someone your age. A number of studies have demonstrated that increased physical activity is linked to better school performance. Regular periods of moderate-to-vigorous physical activity (3-5 times per week) will enhance children's health, academic performance, attitudes and classroom behavior. JUMP ROPE FOR HEART is a great way to promote fitness. Jumping rope is a skill that students can learn now and enjoy for the rest of their lives.

Students in Kindergarten through 3rd grade are learning how to Jump Rope. The rope can be in a straight line, curved, wiggly or circle, on the floor, which is a great way to practice feet movements without the rope moving. Students are also trying to perfect how to turn the rope. They are learning the basic jump, jumping jack feet, scissors feet, cross feet, skier, bell movements, run jump and many more creative ways to Jump Rope.

Students in 4th – 6th grade are using their creativity and individuality to try and perfect many movement combinations. They are using their strength, flexibility, agility, timing and balance to push themselves to try many advanced skills and tricks. Jumping Rope can be done with a single rope, partner jumping, or using a long rope which requires advanced skill in turning the rope and perfect timing on the part of the jumper.

Keep practicing to be the best rope jumper you can be!



REMINDER 4th, 5th 6th Grade Students: JUMP ROPE FOR HEART MONEY DUE FEBRUARY 10th

Because of your commitment to Jump Rope For Heart and your fundraising effort, the Pittsburgh Pirates would like to THANK YOU by inviting you to be their guest at a Pirates game on SUNDAY, **May 13th, PITTSBURGH PIRATES vs. HOUSTON ASTROS**



All Jump Rope For Heart participants who bring in a donation are eligible for a COMPLIMENTARY outfield box ticket (\$24 value). Along with this exclusive offer, your friends and family are able to purchase additional tickets for only \$15 (\$9 discount)! All attending students must be chaperoned and/or accompanied by a parent or guardian 18 years of age or older. Parents will receive a form and will be responsible for ordering and picking up their own tickets at "WILL CALL" before the game. TOP THREE FUNDRAISERS from each school will go on the field for "Group Salute" and after the game "Run the Bases"!

Jumping rope is a low-cost, indoor-outdoor activity that requires little equipment or space and no special attire. Jumping rope increases cardiovascular fitness, muscle strength and endurance, athletic ability and mental alertness. Did you know.....

- Jumping rope is one of the best and safest ways to improve physical fitness and athletic ability. It provides a basic foundation for just about any sport.
- Jumping rope is an excellent workout for both lower and upper body because of the constant turning motion of the rope.
- Jumping rope improves fine and gross motor coordination, agility and fluidity of movement, flexibility and lateral movement. It helps improve rhythm, speed, power, timing and balance.
- The variety of movement combinations is limitless, offering opportunities to express creativity and individuality.
- Jumping rope focuses on individual achievement and can serve as a challenging self-testing activity.
- The rapid progression and improvement often experienced with jumping rope may help enhance self-esteem and body image.
- Jumping rope can help relieve tension, manage stress and aid relaxation and sleep.
- FIVE minutes of jumping rope burns about the same number of calories as 15 minutes of brisk walking. Besides being a fun way to burn calories and maintain weight, it is a weight-bearing exercise that may help prevent osteoporosis and knee injuries. Jumping rope is an ideal recreational activity for all ages and lifestyles. It is a great lifelong exercise.

PTG MEETING ATTENDANCE	
MONTH	PARENTS & TEACHERS
SEPT.....	43
Oct.....	31
Nov.....	21
Dec.....	No Meeting
Jan.....	14

QUESTIONS?

Call any PTG officer
 Kelly Sarnelli 724-455-7689
 Tanya Snyder 724-542-8486
 Amanda Sipe 724-455-1018
 Jamie Ream 724-455-3484

Warm Greetings,

I can't believe it's February!! Where is the time going?

Thank you to everyone that helped make the Book Fair a wonderful opportunity for the students!

The annual "Reading Night" planning is about to get started. If you are interested in helping, come to the February PTG meeting for details. Lots of help is needed for this event.

Congratulations to Miss Polosky's 4th Grade for collecting the most box tops in December! Continue collecting because each month PTG will have a special prize for the classroom with the most Box Tops!

Sarris Candy Easter sale kicks off on February 2. Orders are due back on February 23 and the delivery is March 20 just in time for Easter.

The next PTG meeting is Monday February 6 at 7 pm. Remember a sitter is provided.

Hope to see you there!

Thank you,

Kelly Samelli

PTG President



Box Top Collections

Mrs. Cramer
 Mrs. Shepler 23

Mrs. Basinger
 Mrs. Stepanic 275

Mrs. Show
 Mrs. Ulery 179

Mrs. Hoover
 Mrs. Parsons 180

Miss Polosky 307

Mrs. Coffman
 Ms. Firestone 36

Mrs. Ladowitz 207

Totals

Oct. 4,607
 Nov. 1,784
 Dec. 1,207



Congratulations to Miss Polosky class for winning an extra \$1 coupon to use at the Book Fair.

January winners will receive an extra \$1 for extra at lunch.

February winners will receive a neon glowsticks and bracelets.